

1 I CLAIM:

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1. A disk drive with improved shrouding, comprising:
- 2 (a) a disk;
 - 3 (b) a spindle motor for rotating the disk;
 - 4 (c) a head;
 - 5 (d) an actuator arm for actuating the head radially over the disk;
 - 6 (e) a base; and
 - 7 (f) a cover attached to the base to form a head disk assembly chamber, the cover
 - 8 comprising:
 - 9 an inner surface and an outer surface; and
 - 10 a shroud extending axially from the inner surface into the head disk assembly
 - 11 chamber substantially enveloping the periphery of the disk, including at least part
 - 12 of the periphery coextensive with the actuator arm, to provide radial shrouding of
 - 13 the disk.
- 1 2. The disk drive as recited in claim 1, wherein the shroud is a separate piece adhered to the
- 2 inner surface of the cover.
- 1 3. The disk drive as recited in claim 1, wherein the cover is form molded and the form
- 2 molded cover comprises the shroud.
- 1 4. The disk drive as recited in claim 1, wherein the cover further comprises a substantially
- 2 C-shaped depression positioned substantially concentric over the disk to provide axial
- 3 shrouding.

- 1 5. A method of manufacturing a disk drive with improved shrouding, comprising the steps
2 of:
3 (a) forming a shroud extending axially from an inner surface of a cover;
4 (b) disposing a head disk assembly into a base of a head disk assembly chamber, the head
5 disk assembly comprising a disk, a head, an actuator arm for actuating the head
6 radially over the disk, and a spindle motor for rotating the disk; and
7 (c) attaching the cover to the base of the head disk assembly chamber such that the
8 shroud substantially envelops the periphery of the disk, including at least part of the
9 periphery coextensive with the actuator arm, to provide radial shrouding of the disk.
- 1 6. The method of manufacturing a disk drive as recited in claim 5, wherein the shroud is a
2 separate piece, further comprising the step of adhering the shroud to the inner surface of
3 the cover.
- 1 7. The method of manufacturing a disk drive as recited in claim 5, further comprising the
2 step of form molding the cover, wherein the form molded cover comprises the shroud.
- 1 8. The method of manufacturing a disk drive as recited in claim 5, further comprising the
2 step of forming a substantially C-shaped depression in the cover, the C-shaped depression
3 positioned substantially concentric over the disk to provide axial shrouding.